Abstract

A scalable, reliable session initiation protocol (SIP) signaling router includes cluster nodes for performing SIP services. A location server replicates its database of SIP location information to each of the cluster nodes. Because each cluster node maintains its own local copy of the SIP location database, the time for routing SIP signaling messages is decreased. Load sharing is also performed among the cluster nodes by Ethernet switches that connect the cluster nodes to external networks. One Ethernet switch periodically sends messages to each of the cluster nodes to monitor the operational status of the cluster nodes. The Ethernet switch also maintains a connection tuple table containing information regarding active connections to each of the cluster nodes. Load sharing is performed based on the operational status and the connection tuple table.